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Approved For Release 2004/04/01 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002800030071-1

United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 400, 94TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 9, 1978

Executive Registry

78-485/3

REC'D 16 Oct

OLC # 78-0249/A

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO Q.#5007

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Re: Halkin v Helms, Civil Action No. 75-1773
U.S.D.C., D.C.

Dear Director Turner:

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence has been informed that certain congressional materials, currently in the physical custody of your Agency, have been made the subject of a discovery request in the Halkin v Helms civil action. More specifically, the Committee understands that the material requested includes material and information originating with this Committee and its predecessor, material prepared for the Committee in response to its express interests and any material resulting from specific questions put to your Agency.

This Committee (pursuant to S. Res. 400, 94th Cong.), and its predecessor, the Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, (pursuant to S. Res. 21, 94th Cong.) has exchanged with your Agency considerable information and documents of a very sensitive nature. For historical and practical reasons, this exchange of information and documents is an essential part of the consultative and deliberative process between the two branches. It is essential that this process continue if this Committee is to discharge its obligations to the U.S. Senate and the American people. When this Committee completes its work in an area, a determination will be made according to the applicable Senate Rules as to what information can and should be released to the public, after a careful weighing of all the relevant considerations. Consistent with this approach, strict security procedures are in effect for all of the Committee's intelligence activities records.

Admiral Stansfield Turner
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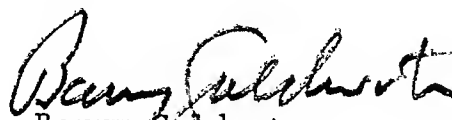
This Committee's predecessor, published extensive reports with regard to its findings in connection with CIA involvement in domestic activities, the subject of this lawsuit. However, the Committee found it neither necessary nor advisable to make available all details regarding the conduct of its investigation and the data assembled. This Committee feels that further publication of information collected by its predecessor is not warranted at this time. It is this Committee's understanding that the basic information sought through discovery in this case has largely been made available through the release of CIA files and records apart from responses to congressional inquiries.

As we requested in our letter to you of September 21, 1978 (Q.#4798) congressional material and information should not be disclosed outside of your Agency without this Committee's prior written concurrence. Should you desire to release any SSCI material for any purpose, we request that you obtain the Committee's approval prior to making such a release.

Sincerely,



Birch Bayh
Chairman



Barry Goldwater
Vice Chairman

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